

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting ~~[[the]]~~ a microbial infection of an eye comprising contacting an eye of a human or animal patient with an amount of a ~~therapeutic~~ composition effective for promoting wound healing, the composition comprising ~~a pharmaceutically acceptable chelating agent a pharmaceutically acceptable pH buffering agent,~~ from 1 mM to 250 mM of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), from 5 mM to 250 mM of Tris (hydroxymethyl) aminomethane, a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~antimicrobial agent,~~ antibiotic or antifungal and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising identifying an invasive microbial population of the wound, identifying an antibiotic capable of inhibiting the proliferation of the invasive microbial population, determining the MIC and FIC values for the antibiotic and the chelating agent; and adjusting the concentration of the antibiotic and the chelating agent of the antimicrobial composition to inhibit the proliferation of the microbial population.

3. (Currently amended) A kit for preparing a therapeutic composition for managing ~~[[a]]~~ an eye infection of an animal or human patient according to the specification herein.

4. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the antibiotic or antifungal is an antibiotic selected from the group consisting of β -lactams, vancomycins, bacitracins, macrolides, lincosamides, chloramphenicols, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, amphotericins, cefazolins, clindamycins, mupirocins, sulfonamides, trimethoprim, rifampicins, metronidazoles, quinolones, novobiocins, polymyxins and Gramicidins, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the antibiotic or antifungal is an antifungal selected from the group consisting of itraconazole, clomtrimazole, miconazole,

natamycin, amphotericin B, cuprimycin, enilconazole, fluconazole, haloprogin, ketoconazole, nystatin and tolnaftate.